

211

Get Connected. Get Help.



211 provides unmatched, critical services, meeting real needs in real time.



THIS VITAL SERVICE IS LEVERAGED BY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE across North America seeking access to free and confidential crisis and emergency counseling, disaster assistance, food, health care and insurance assistance, stable housing and utilities payment assistance, employment services, veteran services and childcare and family services. No matter the situation, the specialists at 211 listen, identify underlying problems, and connect people in need with resources and services in their community that improve their lives. 211 is operated and funded, in part, by local United Ways. Ensuring every person has access to this critical resource exemplifies United Way's fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person in every community. By connecting people in need with the best resources available to them, 211 helps make the social services ecosystem more efficient and effective so resources can go further.

THE 211 IMPACT

211 PROVIDES HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE TO A COUPLE IN NEED. Racked by severe headaches, Paula Lauer knew the source of her ailment was poor eyesight. Neither Lauer, 42, nor her husband, had vision or dental insurance. While she worked as a truck driver, home health aide and housekeeper, she couldn't find a stable job with benefits. Unable to pay for an eye exam or glasses, she finally fished out a flyer someone had given her with information about Michigan 211 and made the call. After listening to her story, the 211 specialist connected her with The Lions Club, a local civic service group that helped her with the cost of an eye exam and glasses. Paula is now pain-free and seeing clearly again.

"I feel really blessed from the help I've gotten," Lauer said. "I can't say enough about how nice they are down at 211. They're so kind. They don't make you feel shameful." Lauer's husband followed in her footsteps. Due to the medication he took for a childhood illness, his teeth had begun to crumble, causing regular infections and leading to low self-esteem. He connected with 211 and found dental clinics that specialize in serving low-income earners, enabling him to get the dental services he desperately needed.

In 2019 alone, 211s in the U.S. made more than 2 million connections to increase healthcare and health insurance access. 211 is free, accessible 24/7/365, completely confidential and available in more than 180 languages. Simply **dial 211** or **visit 211.org** to speak with someone today.

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connections to help



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website searches for help